State of South Caroling Governor's Proclamation

- **WHEREAS,** children deserve to be safe and free from harm in their homes, schools, and communities; and
- WHEREAS, child maltreatment, including neglect, physical abuse, sexual abuse, and emotional abuse, is harm caused to a child by a parent, caretaker, or other person responsible for that child's safety; and
- **WHEREAS,** tragically, children throughout South Carolina and the nation continue to fall victim to abuse and neglect; and
- WHEREAS, the annual observance of Child Abuse Prevention Month is designed to educate our citizens about the devastating effects of child abuse while empowering and encouraging people to get involved; and
- WHEREAS, this year's theme, "Safe Children and Healthy Families are a Shared Responsibility," reminds us of the importance of cooperative efforts between individuals, families, and communities to help ensure a life free from harm for our children.
- NOW, THEREFORE, I, Mark Sanford, Governor of the Great State of South Carolina, do hereby proclaim April 2005 as

CHILD ABUSE PREVENTION MONTH

throughout the state and encourage all South Carolinians to work together to prevent the abuse and neglect of our children.

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MARK SANFORD
GOVERNOR
STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA